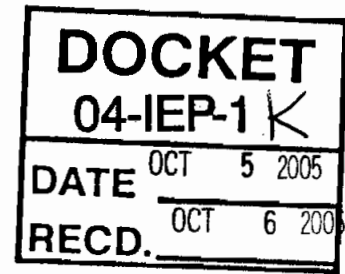


J. David Sterner  
1115 Curtis Street  
Albany, CA 94706  
(510) 526-4829  
davidsterner@earthlink.net



October 5, 2005

California Energy Commission  
1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA

**Subject: 04 IEP 1K Committee Draft Document Hearings**

Dear Commissioners:

I have been working on the issue of bird interactions -wind turbine interactions since 1990 and have participated in some of the earliest as well as the most recent bird fatality studies at the Altamont Pass Wind Resources Area. Most recently, I was the principle author of the California Energy Commission document *A Roadmap for PIER Research on Avian Interactions with Wind Turbines in California* (P500-02-070F). This CEC document described research priorities, and recommended rigorous and standardized scientific procedures for evaluating bird fatalities in association with wind turbines.

I was selected to peer review *Developing Methods To Reduce Bird Mortality In The Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area* (Smallwood and Thelander 2004) and found that it did an excellent job of applying the same rigorous scientific methods recommend in the CEC's PIER roadmap. Smallwood and Thelander's study was the foundation for the CEC report titled *Assessment of Avian Mortality from Collisions and Electrocutions* (CEC-700-2005-015) (Avian White Paper). I am dismayed to see that this paper representing the best science to date and upheld by an excellent panel of scientist-pier reviewers is being criticized as inconclusive. The conclusions in these documents provide a solid and scientifically applied basis for recommending mitigation measures and any attacks on them can only be construed as biased.

I would hate to see a real opportunity for the wind industry and scientists to work together to provide clean energy as well as protection for important avian species. Please give the conclusions in these studies there due consideration and respect.

Sincerely,

David Sterner